

Texas A&M University Central Texas
Department of Humanities

Spring 2019
HIST 5322 Revolutionary America: A World Turned
Upside Down

Instructor: Dr. Timothy C. Hemmis
Meeting Room: HH 203
Meeting Time: M 6:00-9:00 PM
Office: HH 216H
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Phone: 254-501-5931
Office Hours: by appointment



Course Description and Objectives:

This class delves into the early history of American Republic from 1760-1815. Early American Republic is a complex topic that is often overlooked. As a graduate reading seminar, this course will give you an in-depth understanding of Early America and its historiography. Each week there will be readings that are paramount to your success. This course will strengthen your critical thinking, reading, discussion, and writing skills, and provide a foundation for understanding the modern world. You will demonstrate the ability to develop and focus on one topic in writing assignments and present ideas in an organized, logical, and coherent form. You will also demonstrate the ability to use Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage. Lastly, you will hopefully leave this class with a better understanding of America's past and how it has shaped the present.

Required Texts

Calloway, Colin G. *The American Revolution in Indian Country: Crisis and Diversity in Native American Communities*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Gross, Robert A. *The Minutemen and Their World*. New York: Hill and Wang, 1976.

Holton, Woody. *Forced Founders Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution in Virginia*. Chapel Hill; London: The University of North Carolina Press, 2011.

McBride, Spencer W. *Pulpit and Nation: Clergymen and the Politics of Revolutionary America*. Charlottesville: University Of Virginia Press, 2017.

Nash, Gary B. *The Forgotten Fifth: African Americans in the Age of Revolution*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2006.

Norton, Mary Beth. *Liberty's Daughters: The Revolutionary Experience of American Women, 1750-1800: with a New Preface*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1996.

Rosswurm, Steven. *Arms, Country and Class: Philadelphia Militia and the 'lower Sort' During the American Revolution*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1990.

Royster, Charles. *A Revolutionary People at War: The Continental Army and American Character, 1775-1783*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia, by the University of North Carolina Press, 1979.

Slaughter, Thomas Paul. *The Whiskey Rebellion: Frontier Epilogue to the American Revolution*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Smith, Billy Gordon. *The "Lower Sort": Philadelphia's Laboring People, 1750-1800*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press, 1994.

Waldstreicher, David. *In the Midst of Perpetual Fetes: The Making of American Nationalism, 1776-1820*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2008.

Wood, Gordon S. *Radicalism of the American Revolution*. New York: Vintage, 1993.

Recommended Texts

Bailyn, Bernard. *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution*. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1992.

Barksdale, Kevin T. *The Lost State of Franklin America's First Secession*. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2015.

Rampolla, Mary Lynn. *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. 2018.

There can be other articles and book chapters that the Professor may provide electronically each week.

Course Requirements

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Seminar Participation/ Attendance	100 points	All semester
Book Reviews x6	600 points	
Conference Proposal	100 Points	
Conference Style Research Paper	200 Points	

Scoring:

Final Grades will be determined based upon the following scale:

A	=	900-1000 points
B	=	800-899 points
C	=	700-799 points
D	=	600-699 points
F	=	Below 600 points

Attendance and Participation

Class attendance and participation are crucial elements of the learning experience. Attendance is your responsibility. Attendance will be taken daily. In addition, attendance means staying for the whole class. Do not leave early without speaking to me beforehand. Failure to regularly attend class will result in dire consequences such as failing the class. Please come to class prepared and ready to discuss the readings assigned for the day.

Writing Assignments

Book Reviews

There will be six critical reviews of monographs. Each review will be 900-1100 words long and be modeled after critical reviews in academic journals such as the *American Historical Review* or *The William and Mary Quarterly*. A book review concentrates on identifying and critiquing on the author's thesis. What is the author trying to argue, what evidence do they use, and do you agree and disagree? It is not just a simple summary of the book.

Book reviews are due the week the book is to be discussed. And three book reviews must be done by March 4th and the three other reviews done by April 29th.

One of your reviews can be a recommended book.

Conference Paper and Proposal

Present a topic of original research associated with Early Republic. Each student will write a conference proposal for the paper on the topic they chose. Then each student will write a ten page research paper on a topic of their choice. Then during class time they will give the paper like they were at an academic conference. The paper is worth 20% and the proposal is worth 10% of their final grade. Students will then read their paper in a mini-conference.

Please bring two copies of the paper to class during Week 15. One for you and one for the professor.

Important Reminder

Late Papers will be penalized 10% (or 1 letter grade) for every class day they are late. Weekends do not count as class days.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. You must follow to honesty codes set forth in the student handbook. Plagiarism is a serious offense. This or any other violation of the university's Code of Student Conduct can result in penalties that can include up to an F in the class and expulsion from the university. For the official definition of what constitutes plagiarism, see the Student Handbook.

The instructor reserves the right to use electronic resources to detect plagiarism.

If you have any questions about this, please see me.

FORMATTING

Essays must comply with the following formatting guidelines. Writing assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated. Essays must be submitted as hard copies (electronic copies of papers will not be accepted).

Your papers must be typewritten, with 12 pt. font in Times New Roman and double-spaced lines. The header of your paper should be single-spaced and in the following format:

Your Name
Paper, HIS 343
Dr. Timothy Hemmis
janedoe@yahoo.com
Due Date

Your paper should have 1” margins on the top and bottom and 1.25” margins on the left right margins. Evidence must be cited using footnotes. Use of alternate forms of citation, such as the MLA format, is not acceptable. Finally, your essays must be stapled (no “dog ears,” paper clips, or binders) and the pages numbered! If you have questions about the proper format of your essay, please see me during my office hours.

The essay must include evidence from the text, and you must cite that evidence using footnotes. Use the following examples as models:

First citation:

¹ Alfred F. Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party: Memory and the American Revolution* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1999), 45.

Subsequent citations:

⁵ Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party*, 74.

Unexcused/ Late Work or Absences from Exams:

The only valid excuses for missing an exam or failing to turn in a paper or homework on time are illnesses requiring medical care, required university activities, religious holidays, or a personal emergency of a serious nature. To be excused without penalty, documentation is required. In certain other circumstances, I will allow you to turn in an assignment early or take an exam in advance, but you must see me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last possible minute.

Academic Accommodations:

Students with a documented disability wishing to utilize academic accommodations should contact the Disability Support and Access at (254) 501-5831 in Warrior Hall, Ste. 212 as soon as possible so that

warranted accommodations can be arranged. . For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.tamuct/disabilitysupport>.

Cell Phones

In accordance with College policy, the use of all personal electronic communication devices in this class (or laboratory) is prohibited. Students are required to turn off or silence their personal electronic communication devices during this class.

Office Hours

I am available in my office hours to answer your questions and look over drafts before paper your papers are due.

Academic Support Services

Tutoring is available to all students, both on-campus and online. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Room 111. Please contact Academic Support Programs if you are interested in tutoring at (254) 501-5830 or by e-mailing c.garza@tamuct.edu.

***This syllabus is a mutual contract between the professor and student and the student and professor. It will not be altered lightly, however if circumstances make it necessary, the changes will be made as far in advance as is possible.

Course Schedule

Week 1 Class Introduction (JAN 14)

Reading Assignment: Read the Syllabus;

Week 2 (JAN 21) MLK JR Day NO CLASS

Reading Assignment Due: Chapter 3 in Maier, Pauline. *From Resistance to Revolution: Colonial Radicals and the Development of American Opposition to Britain, 1765-1776*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1991.

William Knox's Essay on Public Debt

See Canvas.

Week 3 (JAN 28)

Reading Assignment Due: Gross, Robert A. *The Minutemen and Their World*. New York: Hill and Wang, 1976.

Week 4 War for Independence (Feb 4)

Reading Assignment Due: Royster, Charles. *A Revolutionary People at War: The Continental Army and American Character, 1775-1783*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia, by the University of North Carolina Press, 1979.

Week 5 The Revolution in the Chesapeake (Feb 11)

Reading Assignment Due: Holton, Woody. *Forced Founders Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution in Virginia*. Chapel Hill; London: The University of North Carolina Press, 2011.

Week 6 Revolution and Women (Feb 18)

Reading Assignment Due: Norton, Mary Beth. *Liberty's Daughters: The Revolutionary Experience of American Women, 1750-1800: with a New Preface*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1996.

****Conference Proposal is Due

Week 7 Revolution and African Americans (Feb 25)

Reading Assignment Due: Nash, Gary B. *The Forgotten Fifth: African Americans in the Age of Revolution*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2006.

Week 8 The Revolution and Native Americans (Mar 4)

Reading Assignment Due: Calloway, Colin G. *The American Revolution in Indian Country: Crisis and Diversity in Native American Communities*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

NEEDS TO HAVE THREE BOOK REVIEWS DONE BY MARCH 4th

Mar 11 Spring Break = NO CLASS

Week 9 The Revolution in Pennsylvania (Mar 18)

Reading Assignment Due: Rosswurm, Steven. *Arms, Country and Class: Philadelphia Militia and the 'lower Sort' During the American Revolution*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1990.

Week 10 The Radical Revolution ? (Mar 25)

Reading Assignment Due: Wood, Gordon S. *Radicalism of the American Revolution*. New York: Vintage, 1993.

Shalhope, Robert E. "Toward a Republican Synthesis: The Emergence of an Understanding of Republicanism in American Historiography." *The William and Mary Quarterly* 29, no. 1 (1972): 49-80

Week 11 The Lower Sort (Apr 1)

Reading Assignment Due: Smith, Billy Gordon. *The "Lower Sort": Philadelphia's Laboring People, 1750-1800*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press, 1994.

Lemisch, Jesse. "Jack Tar in the Streets: Merchant Seamen in the Politics of Revolutionary America." *The William and Mary Quarterly* 25, no. 3 (1968): 371-407.

Week 12 Nationalism and Identity (Apr 8)

Reading Assignment Due: Waldstreicher, David. *In the Midst of Perpetual Fetes: The Making of American Nationalism, 1776-1820*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2008.

Week 13 Taxation and Resistance in the Early Republic (Apr 15)

Reading Assignment Due: Slaughter, Thomas Paul. *The Whiskey Rebellion: Frontier Epilogue to the American Revolution*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Week 14 Religion and the Early Republic (Apr 22)

Reading Assignment Due: McBride, Spencer W. *Pulpit and Nation: Clergymen and the Politics of Revolutionary America*. Charlottesville: University Of Virginia Press, 2017.

Week 15 Mini Conference (Apr 29)

Week 16 TBA